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forty-one and eighteen respectively. Besides three distinct species of lateral curvature, all largely due to unhygienic attitudes in writing, other thoracic deformities are induced, the effect of all of which is to reduce the vigor of respiration, circulation, and impair nutrition and growth. VII. Vicious habits. Prolonged sitting favors pelvic congestion and local irritation, strongly inclining to masturbation, to which the mental anomalies of deterioration strongly predispose our degenerate youth. Since Tissot (*L'onanisme: Œuvres*, T. 1), many psychic and somatic troubles have been attributed in form to secret vice. The result is general exhaustion, causing troubles of nutrition, circulation, memory, and depression, irritability, fluctuations of mood, etc. VIII. Excessive mental labor. Moreau's "irritable diathesis" seems increasingly often caused among those striving to acquire culture in the lower classes, and the somewhat greater liability to this form of degeneration among the upper classes is due to heredity. In general, subjective sensations are more vivid in fatigue. Nervous exhaustion tends to depression, which precedes most vesanias. In fine, all these causes together are tending to that form of degeneracy which is incapable of productive effort.

The Children. How to Study them. By FRANCIS WARNER, M. D. London, 1887. pp. 80.

These lectures, given to the Froebel Society, are especially devoted to ways of observing nutrition, eyesight, facial expression, gesture, and posture. The functions of the arm, hand, and spine are especially to be scrutinized, and points to be observed during sleep are enumerated. Some of the cuts and conclusions of the author's work on physical expression, described in our last number, are reproduced.

Tachyhippodamia. By WILLIS J. POWELL. Reprinted in the Southern Live Stock Journal during July, August, and September, 1887.

This rare and often vainly-sought handbook, privately printed in 1838 and sold at a high price as the revelation of a valuable secret first discovered by the author in 1814 and perfected during twenty subsequent years, is here for the first time accessible to the general reader. The author was at first a teacher of Greek, Latin, and modern languages, who later acquired a fortune by this art of taming wild horses freshly caught from the plains of Texas and Mexico, in from two or three to six or eight, or in rare cases twelve or even sixteen hours, all without the least violence. The tamer approached the horse which had been driven, led, or dragged with the lasso into a small enclosure. The animal first turned his tail to the trainer, but in fifteen minutes or half an hour turned about. By motions so slow as to be almost imperceptible the hand was extended and the man approached, stopping instantly at the faintest sign of flinching or fear. At length the nose could be touched and tapped or patted by very slight but rapid movement. Inch by inch this "gentling" process proceeded to the neck, body, fore and hind legs, to the feet, tail, ears, etc., till the horse had been handled all over. All animals have much pleasure in dermal sensations, for the sake of which they will endure more and more sudden and violent aural and optical sensations, and these are the best means of removing fear, which

is the only feeling a confined animal has for man—these are his fundamental principles. An animal that rushes toward a man and would kill him if he fled or showed signs of fright, will always stop a few feet from a man who remains motionless, if there is no distracting object, so that the attention of the animal is fixed on no moving or sounding thing whatever save the trainer. As there are irregular verbs and nouns that do not fall under the paradigms, so he says there are exceptional horses, but none he thinks which variations of this method will not subdue. The secret, he argues, is the moral one of gradualness, gentleness and perseverance, and inspiring confidence, and all drugs, smells, violence, or magnetism are methods of quacks ignorant of the true psychic nature of the horse. Very interesting are the details of "gentling" a wild boar of great ferocity, freshly captured and uninjured, which could at first be only gradually touched with a stick through the bars of a pen, and of a freshly caught adult deer, both of which were so tamed in a single day as to eat out of doors and in public from his hand. Many certificates from military and civil officers of highest rank certified to the marvels of his art and the permanence of his results. The book is written in an accurate and naive way, with incidental allusions to learning and educational art, which gives it, though in slight degree, something of the charm of Isaac Walton, or White of Selbourne. This seems another illustration of the law that very great changes of impressions, whether of pressure, heat, or cold, can be accomplished without consciousness if they are sufficiently gradual—a law of wide range and great utility in education.

Le Leggi statistiche del Suicidio secondo gli ultimi Documenti. MORSELLI. Milano.

This work is a continuation of the author's treatise on the same subject published in 1879, and is one of the very best illustrations of the exact methods of the anthropological school of psychology. The regularity of increase of the number of suicides, which constitutes one of the best arguments for the doctrine of determinism, is much greater than the increase of population. The larger the town the greater the annual increase. The yearly variations depend on cosmic, social, meteoric, and economic changes. The two zones of greatest frequency of suicide are the centre of the German population and Northern France. From these in all directions the frequency of suicide decreases like waves from a stone thrown in the water. This geographical scheme repeats itself on a smaller scale for other smaller centres, the great cities exhibiting, of course, the largest percentage, these latter and race being the chief factors. Like outbreaks of insanity and crime, suicides increase during months of increasing temperature. Spring, summer, winter, fall, is the series which represents decreasing numbers of suicides, June being the month of most and December of least frequency. Suicides increase with culture and civilization. In Italy about twice as many suicides occur in cities as in the country. The state of religious consciousness has a great influence on the tendency to suicide, which is strongest among Protestants; then follow Catholics, Jews, Mahomedans, fetish-worshippers, in decreasing series. Men are about four times as likely to commit suicide as women, but the percentage of women to men is greater in spring and summer, and of men to women in fall and winter. Each race and nation, how-